

Council for Community Accessibility
Meeting Notes for August 31, 2015, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Meeting commenced at 4:01 p.m.

Members: Katie Herron, Susan Russ, Katie Anderson, Vickie Pappas, Chris Jackson, David Carter, Barbara Salisbury, Kemberly Dailey Johnson

Staff: Michael Shermis

Guests: Rick Dietz, Barbara McKinney, Lauren Cowan

Presentation by Rick Dietz, City of Bloomington:

There is a new website for the city that is in development and Rick is asking CCA members to review the beta site at <https://bloomington.in.gov/alpha>.

The site was up on the screen for everyone to look at and comments/questions included were:

- Would the screen contrast allow someone with low vision capabilities read it? It was explained that the resolution with the overhead projector was not good but that it would be better on a screen, but Rick said they would look into changing the resolution.
- Where can you find information regarding disability services? Rick said the IT team felt most people would use the Search capabilities to find that so there wasn't a need for a separate button on the screen.
- What about use on a variety of screens? Laptops, tablets, smartphones? The screen will automatically adapt to the equipment being used.

Everyone was asked to provide feedback to Michael on the new site.

Review of Minutes:

There were no comments regarding the June minutes.

Financial Report:

There is no change from the last report regarding monies spent or the cash balance.

All monies earmarked for the ADA celebration have been used and accounted for.

We have received \$375 in response to the fund-raising requests (with a promises of another \$675). Michael is asking for Council members to volunteer to complete follow-up calls to those who have not yet responded.

Media:

- David Carter shared an article about the ADA 25th Anniversary.
- Michael Shermis shared a new Planning Department poster for the new crosswalk safety campaign.
- Michael also mentioned an article in the current *Bloom* magazine article.

Guest Presentation by Lauren Cowan, Agewise Design:

With her husband, Lauren creates “aging in place” homes for people who are aging or for those with physical support needs. Ms. Cowan shared a PowerPoint presentation regarding homes they have already worked on; she also provided informational material on their company.

City Report:

Nothing to report.

Accessibility Concerns:

Katie Herron shared a concern that the sidewalk on Clarizz Boulevard at Bloomingfoods does not have a curb cut in it and people with mobility issues are having to cross farther down the street to access the parking lot. This creates additional safety issues as there is no crosswalk there.

Katie Anderson shared that during their remodeling project, Royal Auto is having to transport people with mobility issues to the McDonald’s in order to use the bathroom. This is due to the fact the dealership’s facilities are on the second floor and there is not a working elevator for people to use.

Chair Report:

Upcoming Speaker Schedule

Speakers are needed for the October meetings. A representative from the IU Office on Disability will speak at the September meeting. Michael will ask for the head of Dispatch to talk about the special needs registry at the November meeting.

Membership Discussion

The city is requiring the Council to develop bylaws, or at the very least criteria that will outline membership of and voting participation in the CCA. Per the city, voting membership cannot be “at will”. Also, the current system of having the Executive Committee does not provide enough structure and oversight of the whole Council.

Definitions are:

- Full Member—attend 6-7 meetings/year, including sub-committees; attend one event; is a voting member; and is eligible to be a part of the executive committee and to vote. Receives all emails and distributions from the CCA and affiliate committees.
- Affiliate Member—someone who might attend the meetings but is not active on committees or attends events. Would not be a voting member. Receives emails and distributions from the CCA. They have a specific interest in CCA or CCA would like for them to know about issues we raise.
- Informational Member—someone who doesn’t attend meetings, but CCA would like for them to receive emails and distributions from the CCA.

David Carter asked if the council would need to establish a quorum for votes. The Council members in attendance felt a majority of the members would be sufficient.

Katie Herron commented that Council members would need to sign in and their attendance be tracked. Michael will be in charge of this.

Katie Anderson asked if there would be a residency requirement for voting members; Barbara McKinney said there would not be such a requirement.

Vicki Pappas asked about setting the quorum at a high number. There was a recommendation of setting the quorum at 20% of the full membership of the Council. But it was agreed to table this issue until later.

Committee Reports

Accessibility

Decals were awarded as part of the ADA celebration event in July.

The survey report is being updated and will be finished at the September meeting.

They are looking to award a number of decals at the annual dinner in October.

There are currently two mediation reviews set:

- Nick's Olde English Hut on September 9
- Player's Pub date TBD.

Activities/Events

Final Recap of the July ADA Event—172 officially tallied as participating in the event. We received a lot of positive feedback regarding the event.

October 26 is the Annual Awards event, the theme is to be "Employment." The site is still being determined. A call for nominations for people to be honored will go out soon (due October 9th). The committee will meet October 12 to make the final choices.

Affiliate Announcements:

CFRD is having a Caregiver forum, *Navigating the Caregiver Challenge*, on November 7, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at the Council Chambers in City Hall (exhibitors are being solicited for the atrium area). There will be panels on Alzheimer's/Dementia, Self-Care/Caregiver Burn-Out, and Pre-Planning. The Area 10 Council on Aging is assisting with funding.

There was a request for a Council volunteer to be featured in the next newsletter. Katie Herron volunteered.

Adjourned at 5:30 p.m.